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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,507	10/24/2003	Timothy S. Simpson	022082.0003US	9287

34284 7590 12/29/2004

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EXAMINER

SINGH, SUNIL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3673

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,507

Applicant(s)

SIMPSON ET AL.

Examiner

Sunil Singh

Art Unit

3673

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bach (US 2570304).

Bach discloses a flow limiting inlet structure comprising a discharge riser (18) surrounded by a tiered set of nested baffles (16,17). Each baffle that is nested within another baffle is positioned at a lower height than the baffle it is nested within.

The baffles of the set of baffles overlap each other (see Figs. 1,2).

3. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Batson (US 5800715).

Batson discloses a flow limiting inlet structure comprising a set of one or more baffles (see Fig. 12, (90,92,94)) adapted to inhibit the flow of surface materials through the baffle set, wherein the inlet area of the baffle set increases as fluid depth increases (see col. 8 lines 5-10, Fig. 12 and col. 10 lines 1-5).

4. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Bach in view of Clarke.

Bach discloses a storm water detention system comprising a basin (10) sized and positioned to accumulate storm water, an outlet (28), and a flow limiting structure (see

Art Unit: 3673

Figs. 1,2) impeding flow of water out of the basin through the outlet, the flow limiting inlet structure comprising: a set of one or more baffles (16,17) adapted to hinder the flow of surface contaminants into the outlet; and a discharge riser (18) adapted to control the discharge flow rate out of the basin to effectively capture sediment in the basin. The set of one or more baffles are a tiered set of nested baffles wherein: each baffle that is nested within another baffle is positioned at a lower height than the baffle it is nested within (see Fig. 2); the baffles of the set of baffles overlap each other; the difference in height between the upper edge of any baffle that is nested within another baffle and the lower edge of the baffle it is nested within is at least 1/2 inch; the lower inlet area of a baffle of the set of baffles is less than the non-overflow inlet area of the discharge riser; and the number of baffles in the set of baffles is at least 3.

In the event applicant does not concur with the 102 rejection then the following rejection applies.

Bach discloses the invention substantially as claimed. However, Bach is silent about his device being used in a storm water detention system. Clarke teaches to use a separator in a storm water detention system (see col. 1 lines 5-20, 45-50). It would have been considered obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to Bach by using his separator in a storm water detention system as taught by Clarke in order to prevent oil and other petroleum product from entering into the waterways.

Art Unit: 3673

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3 and 4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

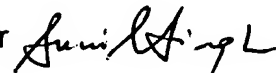
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sunil Singh whose telephone number is (703) 308-4024. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Shackelford can be reached on (703) 308-2978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sunil Singh
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3673



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12/23/04